

# FACT SHEET

## Industry Safety Actions--Offshore



**The Deepwater Horizon oil spill was a tragic incident and the industry is doing all it can to assure such an incident never happens again. Prior to this event, the industry had established an extraordinary safety record in the Gulf of Mexico.**

*It is our goal to continuously improve our operations. We must learn from experiences and while the oil and gas industry's safety record was certainly strong prior to the Deepwater Horizon event, the industry has since raised the bar on response capabilities and it is safer today than it was a year ago.*

**CENTER FOR OFFSHORE SAFETY:** The Center for Offshore Safety is an industry led and industry-funded organization that promotes the highest level of safety for offshore operations through the effective use of best management practices, communication and teamwork.

The organization follows the guidance provided by the American Petroleum Institute in its Recommended Practice 75 - Development of a Safety and Environmental Management Program for Offshore Operations and Facilities. This standard was first issued in 1993 and is now in its third edition, published in May 2004.

The program focuses on shared lessons learned and industry collaboration but also takes it a step further with the use of independent, third party auditing and verification.

**CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS:** The Marine Well Containment Company, one of two developed by the industry in the aftermath of the Deepwater Horizon disaster, is a not-for-profit, stand-alone organization committed to improving capabilities for containing a potential underwater well control incident in the Gulf of Mexico.

The company provides an interim containment system for the Gulf of Mexico consisting of MWCC owned and maintained equipment along with access to mutual aid vessels and equipment. Link: <http://marinewellcontainment.com/>

In addition to the Marine Well Containment Company, 24 deepwater energy companies joined to form the Helix Well Containment Group with the mission of developing a comprehensive and rapid deepwater containment response system. The Helix consortium is named for Houston-based Helix Energy Solutions Group Inc. (HLX), whose spill containment vessels helped stanch the flow of the Macondo well after the Deepwater Horizon event in April 2010. Those ships are now central to the well containment group's system. Link: <http://www.hwccg.org/#!/news>

MWCC and HWCC are part of multiple industry efforts to improve prevention, well intervention and spill response. These containment systems significantly exceed previous Gulf of Mexico containment capabilities.

LMOGA member companies led the way in instituting these proactive measures and have invested more than \$1 billion dollars in spill containment systems to provide rapid response in the unlikely event of an accident in the Gulf of Mexico. The goal is to ensure there is never a need for the systems to be used, but their availability addresses a key point to regulators and the public about the industry's commitment to safety and response.

*Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, founded in 1923, is a trade association exclusively representing all sectors of the oil and gas industry operating in Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico. LMOGA serves exploration and production, refining, transportation, marketing and mid stream companies as well as other firms in the fields of law, engineering, environment, financing and government relations.*

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